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MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE
259 Najoles Road
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410-729-8200

Water Quality Annual Report 2009
Severn Water Company

We are pleased to present to you our eleventh annual report on water quality. The statistics in this report are based on testing done throughout 2009. The amount of pollutants and contaminants in the Severn Water Company drinking water are well below levels set by the Environmental Protection Agency in all categories. With over 800 tests for over 120 compounds conducted on the water, the levels found were below federal regulations. Most compounds were not detected, making your water one of high quality. If you have any questions about this report or have questions concerning your water utility, please contact **Mr. Jay Janney of Maryland Environmental Service at 410-729-8350 or jjann@menv.com**

Where does our water come from?

The water for The Severn Water Company comes from two wells in the Patapsco aquifer. After the water is pumped out of the wells, we adjust the pH and then add a purifier to protect against microbial contaminants. The Maryland Department of the Environment completed a source water assessment. **It was determined that Severn Water Company's water supply is not susceptible to inorganic compound, organic compound, radionuclide or microbiological contaminates**. If you would like a copy of the Source Water Assessment or require more information, please contact Jay Janney.

- Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

In the latter half of 1996, Congress and the President of the United States amended and reauthorized the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This act is the primary federal initiative to ensure that you are provided with safe drinking water. States can adopt the federal standards or set more stringent standards, which are then enforced by the state's environmental agency. In Maryland, the Maryland Department of the Environment enforces these standards.
The amended SDWA contains important provisions such as the regulation of contaminants, protection of source waters, and certification of individuals who operate water treatment plants. Severn Water Company strongly endorses and supports each of these concepts

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain compounds in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Maryland Environmental Service, an agency of the State of Maryland is the operator of the water treatment plant and your supplier of water. Maryland Environmental Service prepared this report on behalf of —

The Severn Water Company

MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

Water Quality Data

The table below lists the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past several years. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2009. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

Severn Water Company- Orchards at Severn Treated Water Quality Report 2009

Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter

ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter

mrem/yr = Millirens per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

pCi/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Regulated at the Treatment Plant - Located at Deerfield Circle - Plant I.D. 01				
Mercury	2 ppb	1.3 ppb	2 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	10 ppm	2.84 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use
Barium	100 ppb	12 ppb	100 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	100 ppb	5 ppb	100 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (226 + 228) (2008 Testing)	5 pCi/l	1.5 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (2008 Testing)	15 pCi/l	5 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (2008 Testing)	4 mrem/yr	0.48 mrem/yr	0 mrem/yr	Decay of Natural Deposits
Di(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate (2006 Testing)	6 ppb	1 ppb	0 ppb	PVC Plastic
Regulated at the Consumer's Tap				
Copper (2006 Testing)	1300 ppb (action level)	90th percentile = 102 ppb	1300 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

THE SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Notice:

The Maryland Environmental Service (MES) operates the Severn Water Company's Water Treatment Plant and routinely monitors the system for the presence of many drinking water contaminants, including the Total Coliform bacteria test. During the months of February and July of 2009, two (2) of the six (6) required Total Coliform samples were inadvertently missed. Consequently, eight (8) Total Coliform samples were collected in the month of March as well as April 2009 and analyzed for coliform bacteria. All of the sample results were negative for the presence of Coliform bacteria. **What Does This Mean ?** - This is not an emergency. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. Coliforms are bacteria, which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. If coliforms are found in more samples than allowed, it may serves as a warning sign that there could be a problem with the system's treatment or distribution components. **You may drink the water.** However, if you have specific health concerns, please consult your doctor. People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. **Steps MES Has Taken** - We have reviewed the system's sampling schedule to ensure that oversights such as this do not occur again. Please call Mr. Jay Janney at (410) 729 8350 for additional information.